



Bruce F. Duke  
Executive Director  
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## *The Public Service Commission State of South Carolina*

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Utilities Department  
D. Wayne Burdett, Manager  
Phone: (803) 896-5125  
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July 19, 2004

### E-MAIL & US MAIL

Mr. Russ Rountree, CPA  
McNair, McLemore, Middlebrooks & Co., LLP  
Post Office Box One  
Macon, GA 31202

Dear Mr. Rountree:

The Pleading which you filed on behalf of Piedmont has been duly received and assigned Docket No. 2004-177-C.

In order to proceed with the processing of this Docket, it will be necessary for you to accomplish the following:

Publish, at your own expense, on or before **July 29, 2004**, the enclosed Notice, in newspapers of general circulation, in the affected areas, one time and provide the undersigned Proof of Publication on or before **August 5, 2004**.

Failure to comply with the above on or before the dates indicated may result in the **DISMISSAL** of your pleading.

In the meantime, should you require additional information, please advise.

Sincerely yours,

## **PIEDMONT RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE REQUESTS APPROVAL OF CHANGE IN DEPRECIATION RATE**

Piedmont Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (Company or Applicant) filed an Application with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina for approval of a depreciation rate change for office equipment. The Company proposes to increase the depreciation rate for this account from 4.5% to 10.0%.

A copy of the Application is on file in the offices of the Public Service Commission of South Carolina, Synergy Business Park, Saluda Building, 101 Executive Center Drive, Columbia, South Carolina and is available through Mr. Russ Rountree, McNair, McLemore, Middlebrooks & Co., LLP, 389 Mulberry Street, Post Office Box One, Macon, GA 31202.

Any person who wishes to testify and present evidence at a hearing, if scheduled, should notify Bruce F. Duke, Executive Director, at the address below, and Mr. Russ Rountree, at the previously stated address, in writing, on or before **August 12, 2004**, and indicate the amount of time required for his presentation. Please refer to **Docket No. 2004-177-C**.

Any person who wishes to present his views to the Public Service Commission may do so in writing, on or before **August 12, 2004**. Please refer to **Docket No. 2004-177-C**.

Any person who wishes to participate in this matter, as a party of record should file a Petition to Intervene in accordance with the Commission's Procedures, on or before **August 12, 2004**. Please refer to **Docket No. 2004-177-C**.

Persons seeking information about the Commission's Procedures should contact the Commission by dialing (803) 896-5105.

**BRUCE F. DUKE**  
Executive Director  
Public Service Commission of South Carolina  
P.O. Drawer 11649  
Columbia South Carolina 29211

**COPY ADDRESS:**

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Chief Financial Officer  
Piedmont Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.  
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Laurens, South Carolina 29360